

The GOLDEN SPIKE



www.svlsrcm.org

September 2021

Volume 48, Issue 9



President's Report

By Andy Berchielli

It's that time of year when we start thinking about election of board members. Chris Donhost is on the election committee and is eager to hear those interested in helping guide the club on the right track. I have been on a board and committee position since late 2009. The changes made since I've been around are very gratifying. I take great pride in the work that has been accomplished over this time frame. However I believe it's time to take a step back for various reasons that I won't share with you all here. However my time has become more and more demanding in my personal and work life leaving little time to dedicate for the club. I tip my hat knowing the club is in a great space.

Hot August Night was well attended. The G gauge was active throughout the day and we saw Levi and Lil Blue fired up and running around for members to enjoy.

So what's coming up? We are in the process of improving our loading and unloading capabilities. Hopefully it will be done this year, but again it comes down to time and material. Anyone have some 4" C channel laying around they would like to donate for this project will be beneficial.

Also September we have many parties to host. Contact me if interested in helping. Finally October will be busy with our Pumpkin Train, Fall Meet and Portola Valley Meet. If interested in attending the PVARR Meet please contact me for details

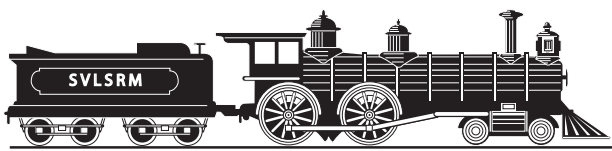


Trainmaster

By Peter Welch

The members run day this month was a hit as a few member brought their engines down to run and enjoy the rails

The club has purchased a new four post lift for loading and unloading trains. A few members showed up at the club on Friday to help unload it. We will be taking steps toward instilling it very soon.. It will side load left right up down and spin making loading faster and more efficient.



Stay On Track

Do you want to see the Sacramento Valley Live Steamers stay on track? Elections are upon us and it is up to each of us to do our part for the betterment of our organization. President, Trainmaster, and Director-at-Large positions are available. Andy, Peter, and Steve have been wonderful stewards of the club for us all to enjoy. That is great news for those who are next! You can thank them by continuing the good work through service on the board. There is an opportunity to bring your ideas and leadership to our organization. This is the time to make yourself available - we need you. Chris Donhost is heading up the nomination committee.

Please call for more information about how you can help your club continue down the line. (707) 301-0739.



SVLSRM Calendar

Club future activity will depend on VIRUS GUIDELINES. *Please check on-line about Public activity.*

Sept. 4 11 AM to 3 PM- **check on-line**
 Sept. 5 11 AM to 3 PM - **check on-line**
 Sept. 13 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Via Zoom
 Sept. 18 Work day.
 Sept. 19 Member RUN day.

Oct. 2 11 AM to 3 PM - Harvest Express Rides
 Oct. 3 11 AM to 3 PM - Harvest Express Rides
 Oct. 11 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Via Zoom
 Oct.15 Fall Meet
 Oct.16 Fall Meet
 Oct.17 Fall Meet
 Oct. 23 & 24 Portola Valley & Alpine RR joint meet with GGLS - Contact President Andy.

Please volunteer to support the club events.
 How will you support SVLSRM this month?



There are plenty of projects to work on at the railroad so you need to come out and give time to your organization.



See www.svlsrcm.org for current information. If you have not looked for a while, then you will have missed news or for sale items that are not in the newsletter.



Help save money by receiving your newsletters on-line.

Save SVLSRM some money and read the news letters on-line. Tell Membership that you don't need the mailed copy; we will notify you by E-mail so you can read it on-line.

The Sacramento Valley Live Steamers Railroad Museum, Inc. is organized and operated exclusively for public benefit charitable purposes within the meaning of Section 501 (C.) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Donors may deduct contributions to The Sacramento Valley Live Steamers Railroad Museum, Inc. to the fullest extent allowed by law as provided in Section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code.

The Golden Spike is published monthly by the Sacramento Valley Live Steamers Railroad Museum, Inc., P.O. Box 273, Rancho Cordova, CA 95741. The SVLSRM track is located in Hagan Community Park, Chase Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA.

Articles & Pictures may be submitted to: editor@svlsrcm.org.

The news letter deadline is 24th of each month. Member articles wanted.

Board of Directors

- (##) *Ending year of term*
 President: Andy Berchielli (916) 752-6697 (21)
 E-mail: president@svlsrcm.org
 Vice President: Dennis Gramith (916) 988-7884 (22)
 E-mail: vicepresident@svlsrcm.org
 Secretary: Stephanie Huntingdale (916) 580-7377 (21)
 E-mail: secretary@svlsrcm.org
 Treasurer: Tom Nance, (714) 795-4630 (22)
 E-mail: treasurer@svlsrcm.org
 Track Superintendent: Dennis Bowie (916) 337-9492 (22)
 E-mail: tracksuper@svlsrcm.org
 Yardmaster: Richard Lutrel (925) 876-0375 (22)
 E-mail: yardmaster@svlsrcm.org
 Trainmaster: Peter Welch (916) 838 4998 (21)
 E-mail: trainmaster@svlsrcm.org
 Director1: Craig Griffin (916) 365-1917 (22)
 E-mail: director_craig@svlsrcm.org
 Director2: Steve Milward (530) 559-2472 (21)
 E-mail: director_steve@svlsrcm.org

Committee Chairpersons

- Membership Chairperson: Stacy Reese (916) 960-6850
 E-mail: membership@svlsrcm.org
 Librarian Chairperson: Alison Berry (916) 956-4597
 E-mail: librarian@svlsrcm.org
 Caboose Chairperson: Barbara Moser (916) 645-3425
 E-mail: caboose@svlsrcm.org
 Birthday & Company Events Chairperson:
 Phone: (916) 572-7857 E-mail: Events@svlsrcm.org
 Newsletter & Web Editor: Bill Yoder (916) 652-7113
 E-mail: editor@svlsrcm.org
 Safety Chairperson: --- OPEN ---

Reminder - No phone calls after 8:59 PM

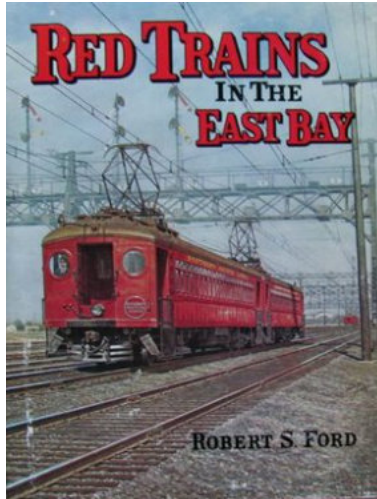


Librarian - Alison Berry

Red Trains in the East Bay

The book covers the entire life of the train and ferry system that once connected San Francisco, Oakland and Alameda. The book

covers much more than simply the Southern Pacific trains -- it begins in 1851 when the first suggestion was made to connect Contra Costa to San Francisco and continues systematically through the years as various ferry systems were opened and train systems were built, providing detailed information on every aspect (including fires, earthquakes, and wrecks), the transition from narrow to broad gauge, the transition from steam to electric, the connections between trains and ferries, the building of the Bay Bridge and the engineering genius that carried the trains across, and finally, the end of the trains and their disposition. Illustrated throughout with wonderful black and white photos, maps, schematic diagrams of the cars, and drawings of the repair shops, terminals, and piers. Includes numerous charts and tables with everything from timetables to the names of the ferry captains.



MEMBERSHIP

by Stacy Reese

**WELCOME,
NEW
MEMBERS!**

We have had several new members over the last couple of months and we would like to welcome them. Please come out to the park and get involved, ask questions, get training, and have fun!

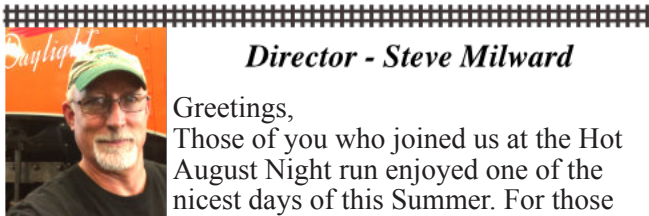
- Sam & Joe Jarosz and family, West Sacramento, CA
- Evan & Jennifer Fain and family, Rancho Cordova, CA
- Stella Hatfiels & family, Rancho Cordova, CA
- Thomas Sullivan & Julie Jones, Citrus Heights, CA
- Christie Ravera & Raymond Shelley and family, Rancho Cordova, CA
- Jess & Katie Sanford and family, Sacramento, CA
- Richard & Norma Corbell, Carmichael, CA
- Gene Speier & Jeannette Lieber, Sacramento, CA
- Thomas & Beverly Holthus, Rancho Cordova, CA
- Raimund Dippon & Hisayo Nakatsuka, Fair Oaks, CA

I would also like to ask everyone to send me any updates to your contact information. I want to make sure you get all the news from the club. Please look at the By-Law changes. They better define the membership categories and it's up to you to vote. If you have any questions please let me know.

the railroad. Make a point of signing in and recording time spent working at the park. Why? Quite simply, volunteer hours have a real value beyond the obvious contributions to our organization. In California, volunteer labor is valued at almost \$30 per hour. Recording those hours is a useful tool when seeking out grants and donations. Time spent at meetings, or time spent elsewhere working towards the betterment of SVLS should also be recorded. More details will be provided as we learn more. Until then, be sure to keep track of your time when possible.

I know I'm repeating myself, but – Please make sure any combination padlock you open, or find open is zeroed "0000". Also be sure that ALL areas buildings and cabinets are locked at the end of the day. Don't assume that the next person will take care of it. Looking forward, we have the Pumpkin Trains, the Fall Meet, Christmas tree lighting in Rancho Cordova and finally, the Santa Trains. As always, if you're available to help with any or all of these events, we'd certainly appreciate it!

Until the next time we see you on the rails, be safe and have fun!



Director - Steve Milward

Greetings,
Those of you who joined us at the Hot August Night run enjoyed one of the nicest days of this Summer. For those who missed out, a recap is in order.

Let's start with perfect weather! Warm, but certainly not hot followed by a cool evening. The smoke from the fires around the state cleared out for the occasion. A good number of members and guests came out through the course of the day to enjoy lots of trains, good food and the company of fellow members and friends. The garden railroad folks were well represented, running a variety of trains. There's no doubt about the popularity of that track.

A new item for those folks who come out to work at



10 Years ago: We took our portable track to the Travis Air show at the end of July. We had a great time and a very good view of the show. Thanks to Karle, Lee, Pete, Dale, Ed, Mary, Mark, Carson, Isabella, and myself for making this event possible. We did this show to show our appreciation of the Military. Thanks to all Those that serve!



20 Years ago: It has been a busy month what with our Hot August Nights weekend run, some work days and a couple of special runs. During the month Milon Thorley designed, constructed and installed an extension of the upper storage track racks in the boxcar. The extension gives us much needed additional space for Club riding cars. He also has conducted what amounts to annual cleaning of sprinkler heads, due to the green muck generated from the Park water source.

30 Years ago: The action in the park has been fantastic! A lot of projects are being completed by the club members, new potential members, and friends of S.V.L.S. For example, last Sunday (9/8/91), Bill Roscoe and Doug Fulton came out, poured concrete pads and installed electrical circuits for the working semaphore signals Bill made some time ago. During the afternoon run, a gentleman came out of the crowd with six (6) target signals, complete with base, electrical and ladder. A friend of the club, but not a member. What a Gesture! The outbound elevated has been re-aligned to smooth the low yard tracks. Switches are being re-tied by Ed Spall. Milon Thorley and Dennis Gramith have revised the elevated superstructure. The outbound main line has been re-tied past the box car. A new outbound main is graded into the expansion area. A lot of work thanks to many other members has been to maintain the right-of-way, grass areas, and picnic sites. This includes elevating the meadow run-around siding plus ballast. The following projects are active and will be worked on next work day: steaming bay electrical, security light on caboose towards bathrooms, lower yard track ballasting, and general clean-up. A special task will be to install the

crossing signal (donated by Dolbus Trucking) off the Placerville branch near the transfer table rails in the lower lawn area. This unit will be operable with track circuits on the transfer table/outbound yard lead. Nice work, Milon, in acquiring this appliance.

40 Years ago: Run Day. We carry the bullion for River City Bank's annual family picnic. Come out with your engines and shotguns. We need the motive power...gold weighs heavy. Spall, Yungling, McWhirk and Shelley have promised to be there with theirs.

Old-Time Railroad Movies at Big Top Pizza at 1 and 4 pm. Donation adults \$4, students through high school and those over 62 \$2. Half net take to SVLS, Half to Sierra Chapter - American Theater Organ Society. Bob Vaughn will create the moods for the silent films about trains of yesteryear.



Director - Craig Griffin



Gday Everyone,
If you made out to the " Hot August Nights" run last Saturday, you were in for a pleasant surprise.

It was not a typical HOT August night. The weather was perfect for running trains, a light delta breeze with an air temperature in the mid 80's. I got to the park about 3:00 pm and there were quite a few trains running, both on the 7.5" and the G gauge table, good to see.

We got Levi out and ready for steam. As usual Levi ran great, other than a sticky blow down valve! Garry and Tom N. Got some more time in running Levi. Also some first timers for running Levi. They were Phil H., Austin, Dennis B., and Peter W. All had a good time running Levi and found how nice and easy an engine Levi is to run.

I had a couple of other members enquire about learning to run Levi. I will arrange some one on one time soon and get them familiar with running a steam locomotive.

Remember everyone, Levi is a club engine, and any member is welcome to come learn how to run live steam. One of Marty's wishes when he donated Levi, was for everyone in the club to enjoy Levi, and if you so desire, to learn how to run Levi.

Give me a call or send me an email if you have any questions or want to set up a time to learn more about running Levi.

Craig.
PS: Each club live steam engine is very individual, and you will need time learning how to run each one separately.



TRACK UPDATE

By Phil Huntingdale

As I write this, we just completed our Hot August Night club event. Weather was perfect and the smoke from the fires was not an issue. A few g scale members attended and had a great afternoon of steaming and running. It was great so see Les and Casey Wilmunder run their narrow gage locomotive, Rich Nelson with his shay, Colton Snell with one of his many locomotives, and myself with my Daylight Locomotive and consists. Michael Fitzgerald had his Napa Wine Train, and Lance Bye with his freight train.

Lance and wife Kelly helped with club maintenance by raking around the area. Thank you for that!

Along with this, I brought out a battery set for the young member kids to have a fun time. It was nice to have the youngsters out enjoying the trains. There was a train running most of the day and into the string of lights as night began to fall. Great day for the club members!

Remember that the table is available for running on the Public Run Day (first weekend), and of course on Tuesday or any other day you wish to play. The weather has been kind to us, beautiful mornings and early afternoons. The only problem has been the shifting smoke. Let's hope any members of the club are not affected by the fires and are safe.

See you about!



Please stay safe and follow State guidelines to do your part in preventing the spread of this Covid-19 virus.

Not Vaccinated then

Wear your MASK!



Secretary Board Report

By Stephanie Huntingdale

The Board meets by ZOOM. Members are always encouraged to attend. The next meeting is September 13, 6:30 p.m. If you would like to attend, contact Andy Berchielli, (916) 752-6697, for how to connect to ZOOM or Stephanie Huntingdale (916) 580-7377 for an Agenda. Public Run for August 430 riders.

Discovered that the FUEL cabinet was left unlocked after Saturday public run. All 5 fuel containers with gas were stolen. Reminders, if you are the last to leave the park, make sure you check to see that all locks are secure. Every member should be responsible to check before you leave.

At public run, rocks were piled on the track that runs through the park area. Need to be cautious at all times between the 1st and 2nd crossing all trains should slow down. It was suggested that the club should have a training day to remind everyone.

Bylaw changes were to be sent to the membership by email and mail by August 15th.

Track is being assembled for the winter project. Need more tie material and stainless steel screws. The 110 volt electric power supply by Oasis failed. It will be replaced.

Santa Fe- replaced choke damage, throttle link still wired together.

Pacific – is out of service. Several issues. Branden McCracken is coming to take a look.

Storage Container to be reviewed at Hot August Night for future Grant funding.

A new evaporated cooler to be purchased for the WP ca-boose.

Hydraulic Lift replacement. A proposal and FCR will be presented at the September Board meeting. Up to \$3,000 has been authorized for a used 4 post lift purchase.

New Board Policy – It is agreed that the Train Master, Track Superintendent or Yard Master should be contacted before any major project or repair work is done at the club. They will determine if the project or repair should be continued or stopped at that point.

Election Committee – Chris Donhost will Chair the Election Committee. Positions open are President, Secretary, 1 Director at Large, and Trainmaster. Contact Chris if you have interest in any of the positions. Elections at the November 20th Annual Meeting.

Planning is going on for Pumpkin Run, October 2nd & 3rd. Fall Meet, October 15 -17 and Santa Train, December 4 & 5, 11 & 12.

2018 Master Plan is being reviewed for updating to 2021.

FOR SALE



The RGS Story (Rio Grande Southern) Complete set Vols I-XII \$1500.
 Full Size Crossing lights & bracket (2 light) \$275.
 Full Size single Crossing light \$100.
 Full size Adlake Switch Stand light \$175.
 Full size Adlake switch light has only one lens \$100.
 Adlake Lantern , one lens missing \$350.
 Turntable for Model - dual track 7.25 & 7.5 gauge \$150.
 Various Boxcar/Caboose grab irons - Make offer

Contact Jeri Juergenson at 530 269-0443 (leave a message)

Got Something for Sale? Send to editor@svlsm.org



Got a project you would like to show off that is too big to bring to the meeting for show and tell. Then give the editor a call/email and we'll take pictures for a feature.



SAFETY RULES FOR THE MONTH

1.09 Handcars

Handcars and other non-powered vehicles shall operate only at the discretion of the Trainmaster or a board member.

2.03 Night Time Operations

All locomotives operating after sunset shall be equipped in the following manner:

- Working headlight.
- Lighted cab on steam engines.
- Marker light or lantern on the rear of the last car.
- Conductor/Brakemen shall have a lighted lantern or flashlight suitable for making hand signals.

3.18 SVLSRM Owned Equipment

Any member wishing to use any SVLSRM owned rail equipment at the facility must make this request to the Trainmaster or appointee (Article IV, Section 11 of By-Laws). The member must report to the Trainmaster or appointee any damage or operational problems that occurred while in their care at the time of the equipment return. The member must return the equipment to the location from where it was issued.

4.11 Conduct of Passengers

The Stationmaster and all members of every train crew of any train hauling the public shall ascertain that all passengers are informed of passenger safety rules before the train leaves the station.

Passengers shall remain on the train during unscheduled stops unless otherwise directed. Engineers and Conductor are responsible for orderly passenger conduct.

The train crew shall inform the passengers to:

- A. Remain seated facing forward at all times while the train is in motion.
- B. Remain seated on the train until it returns to the station.
- C. Not to lean out or reach for anything along the right-of-way while the train is in motion.
- D. Keep hands and feet within the boundaries of the riding car at all times while the train is in motion.
- E. Not to yell or scream while riding on the train, except in an emergency.
- F. Do not lean over or turn around while taking pictures when the train is in motion.





Hot August Nights:

Andy Berchielli, Peter Welch, John Bailie, Reno Farinelli, Chris Klevesahl & guest Joe O'Rilley, Harry Voss, Gordon & Barbara Moser, Bill & Butch Floyd, Phil & Stephanie Huntingdale, Craig Griffin, Dennis Gramith, Judy Zegler, Seth Hanson & Family, Colton Snell, Eric & Paul Quiring, Lance & Kelly Bye, Kevin & Andrew Sach, Les, Cindy, & Casey Wilmunder, Dave McClain & guest Rachel Noble, Leonard Houpt, Gil Dominguez, Steve & Ian Milward & family, Toy & Don Yungling, Dennis Bowie, Rich Nelson, Dave McCrackin, Austin Unruh, Larry Curtin.



Workday helpers - Seen on Tuesdays, Saturdays, Other Misc Days during week: 7-24-2021, 7-27-2021, 7-31-2021, 8-1-2021, 8-6-2021, 8-8-2021, 8-10-2021, 8-17-2021:

Andy Berchielli, Gil Dominguez, Dennis Gramith, Colton Snell, Dennis Bowie, Gordon & Barbara Moser, Harry Voss, Phil & Stephanie Huntingdale, Bob Bess, Craig Griffin, Bill & Willie Yoder, Tom Nance, Richard Lutrel, Bill & Butch Floyd, Austin Unruh, Keith Berry, Larry Curtin, Rich Corbell, Leonard Cassieri, Richard Corbell, Alison Berry, Larry Curtin, Peter Welch.

August Public Run Day Helpers, Andy Berchielli, Phil & Stephanie Huntingdale, Chris Klevesahl, Alison Berry, Tom Nance, Craig Griffin, Chris, Paul & Eli Donhost, Glen Wilson, David & Rose Jansson, Steve Milward, Leonard Cassier, Gordon & Barbara Moser, Austin Unruh, Harry Voss, Rob Sharratt, Dennis Gramith, Larry Curtin.

Blast from the past



The
**GOLDEN
 SPIKE**

SACRAMENTO VALLEY



LIVE STEAMERS

VOLUME I

AUGUST 1974

NUMBER 2

AUGUST MEETING

As mentioned in our last issue, the membership meeting for August will be held at Milon Thorley's Eldorado and Southern Railroad. The meeting will be Friday, August 16th, and will begin at 7:30pm. Milon asks everyone to bring his own folding chair, since he doesn't have enough to go around. A photo show is planned. Look for a map to Milon's place in this issue.

Also, the Board of Directors will present the first reading of the proposed by-laws which will bring us into conformance with State corporation laws. The main area for discussion will be the re-organization of the Board of Directors. Please come to assist in this important discussion.

FALL MEET

Due to the by-law discussions and a variety of other reasons, the fall meet will be changed to September 28th. This will give us more time to prepare the track and also attend the GGIS Meet on the third weekend. Remember to save the 28th of September for the Meet.

WORK DAY ???

Last month we called a work day for the 27th of July. I arrived at 9:00 a.m. to join the group.....and found no group.....and found no one. Two and a half hours later, I was joined by Earl McKenzie, who ably assisted in the work, and who was still at it when I pooped out at 1:00. At 3:30 or so, Larry Badger, with a couple of relatives, put in their licks. Earl and I cleared the weeds off about 400 feet of track at the south end, and Larry's group used weed killer in the turntable area. If you helped at another time, I apologize for not mentioning your name, but I wasn't told.

RESIGNATION

Sadly, we must report that Ed Yungling has resigned from the Board of Directors and from his post a Chairman of the Track Committee. Ed wants to devote more time on his own live steam projects, including the Mallet and a 15" gauge steamer. Although he won't be directly involved, he will be around to give much needed suggestions to those who replace him. Since our current by-laws limit posts on the Board to past officers, we will be asked to approve Curt Janssen as Ed's replacement at the August meeting. Curt is the only active past officer in the club. On behalf of the club, I would like to thank Ed for the many hours of dedicated service to the SVLS since its inception.

Your Editor is working on getting all of our news letters (that we have) copied so we can have our history on-line. It only takes time...